

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 37.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 1915.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer,
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MEETINGS LIST.

Friday, Nov. 26th.

Grundy St., 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Miss Manicom.

Beckton Rd., 4.30 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m. Miss
Ellen Smith, Mrs. Drake.

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., "Par-
liament."

Saturday, Nov. 27th.

Vernon Rd., 4 p.m., Mrs. Davies,
Miss Lynch.

Morning Lane, 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Sunday, Nov. 28th.

Copenhagen Place, 11.30 a.m., Miss
Manicom.

Osborne St., 11.30 a.m., Miss Lynch.

Victoria Park, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake,
Mrs. Bouvier.

Bow Women's Hall, 7 p.m., Mr.
Fred Hughes, Mrs. Drake. Chair:
Miss S. Pankhurst.

Monday, Nov. 29th.

Follett St., 6 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss
Manicom.

"Whitehouse," 4.30 p.m., Miss Lynch,
Miss Beamish.

Tuesday, Nov. 30th.

Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Miss
A. Haughton, B.A., Mrs. Drake.

Bow Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Miss
Lynch, and others.

175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Mrs.
Bouvier, Miss Beamish.

White Cross St., 1.30 p.m., Miss
Manicom, Mrs. Holloway.

Wednesday, Dec. 1st.

Chrip St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake,
Miss Manicom.

53 St. Leonard St., 3.30 p.m., Mrs.
Bouvier.

Thursday, Dec. 2nd.

Memorial Hall, Farringdon St., 8 p.m.
Bernard Shaw on the "The Nation's
Vitality." Chair: Miss S. Pankhurst

Friday, Dec. 3rd.

Piggott St., 4.30 p.m., Miss Lynch,
Miss Manicom.

Beckton Rd., 4.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
McLeod, Mrs. Drake.

Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., "Par-
liament."

Saturday, Dec. 4th.

Vernon Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.

Morning Lane and Well St., 3.30 p.m.,
Mr. Mackinlay, Miss Beamish.

Sunday, Dec. 5th.

Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Leigh
Rothwell.

Poplar Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m., Miss
A. Haughton, B.A., Mr. Godbold.

Chair: Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.

CANNING TOWN E.L.F.S. MILK FUND
SOCIAL, Saturday, Dec. 11th, 7.30 p.m.
FAIRBAIRN HALL, 310 BARKING RD.

AS RUNCIMAN SEES IT!

Mr. Runciman stated on Novem-
ber 17th in the House of Commons
in reply to Sir A. Markham that
"one of the points to be con-
sidered in fixing the terms of peace"
would be the case of the profits of
such firms as the London Emery
Works, which is controlled by a
German.

Hitherto Members of the Govern-
ment have indignantly refused to
give any hint as to the details of the
terms which it is prepared to con-
sider. It is significant that this
sordid commercial question is the
first on which they have thought it
fit to give a definite reply. Trade
interests appear to come first with
them in spite of their speeches on
ideals!

IN AID OF THE

"Mother's Arms" and Four Baby Clinics,

— AT —

Memorial Hall, Farringdon St., E.C.,

On Thursday, December 2nd.,

8 p.m. Doors open 7.30 p.m.

BERNARD SHAW will speak
on

"THE NATION'S VITALITY."

Other Speakers: Dr. BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY, Mrs. DRAKE.

Chair: Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Tickets—5s., 2s. 6d., 1s. and 6d., at the International Suffrage Shop, 5 Duke
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WAX AND CHINA DOLLS.

Also Tumbling Jacks and Jills 1s. each. All sorts of
Wooden Toys from 6d. each. Noah's Arks, Jig Saw
Puzzles, Dolls' Furniture, etc.

DIPLOMACY AFTER THE WAR.

Bernard Shaw, in his lecture on
"Diplomacy After the War," said that
until we know the conditions on which
we are prepared to make terms of
peace, we do not know what we are
fighting for. The statement of terms
of peace and the declaration of War
ought to be almost simultaneous. We
should agitate for the immediate dis-
cussion of these terms, since this
takes place usually a year or more
before War is concluded. Good chess
players seldom continue a game to a
finish, because they can foresee the
result; a similar custom ought to be
applied in War.

The risks of victory are possibly
greater than the risks of defeat," said
Mr. Shaw; in the latter case Germany
might be induced to combine with
America against England.

No peace could be regarded as
certain till England, France and
Germany were agreed. Hence Mr.
Shaw advocated a league of Western
Civilisation, organised on a Demo-
cratic basis, from the Rocky Moun-
tains to the Carpathians.

The *New York Sun* published an interview
with Maximilian Harden, the editor of the
German paper *Zukunft*. Harden said that
"not one of the Powers is fighting for any
definite end," and that "not one of the
belligerents knows exactly what it wants."
Harden adds:—"I am convinced that all
thinking persons in every country are for
peace. How could they favour all this
hatred? I have always been considered
bellicose an advocate of war, but it is false."

Use the DREADNOUGHT as a Christmas Card.

PEACE OFFERINGS.

Mrs. Payne recently offered two-
thirds of her capital towards an
indemnity to be offered to Belgium,
if this would help the warring nations
to make peace. She urged that
other women should join her in es-
tablishing a fund.

Now Mr. Ford, the American Motor
Manufacturer, has offered his entire
fortune to facilitate the calling of a
conference of neutral powers to
mediate. He has urged President
Wilson to initiate negotiations at
Christmas.

Frau Paasche, daughter-in-law of the
National Liberal Vice-President of the
Reichstag, writes in the *Tageblatt*: "There
are persons who hold that this War was
necessary. But let us hope that these per-
sons think 'Never again on earth such misery
and tears.' I believe that after the War there
will be an enormous impetus given to the
pacifist movement."

Mr. J. L. Garvin, lecturing on the War at
His Majesty's Theatre, made a somewhat
bellicose speech, but said in conclusion that
we must create a new foundation for the
public law of Europe, and that there should
be international machinery for the renewal
of treaties. He said that it would have been
impossible for Germany to have attempted
the violation of Belgium if she had renewed
the treaty the year before the War, and if the
United States and Japan had joined the
signatory powers.

A Joint Delegate Meeting of Suffrage
Societies will be held early in Decem-
ber to discuss the lines of a united
forward Suffrage campaign in the
New Year, including the holding of a
Public Conference and an Albert Hall
Meeting, or other great demonstra-
tion. We should be glad to hear
from our readers on this subject.

THE SOLDIER'S SHARE IN THE VOTE OF CREDIT.

Speaking in the House of Com-
mons on November 16th Mr. Booth
suggested that a part of the
£400,000,000 which is being voted for
the War under the Appropriation
Bill should be spent on providing
sanatorium and other treatment for
soldiers and sailors who contract
tuberculosis. He stated that the
financial basis of the Insurance Act
is threatened by the fact that the
majority of the healthiest men in the
country are being sent out to the
War, the weak and the elderly, who
make the heaviest drain on the
fund, remaining at home. When
who were strong and the healthy re-
turn from the War with broken
health, they also are to become a
charge on the fund.

As Mr. Booth pointed out and as
we have learnt from numbers of
actual cases, a startlingly large pro-
portion of men contract tuberculosis
as a result of exposure even during
training. Already, in London alone,
there are hundreds of applicants for
the limited sanatorium accommoda-
tion which the War economists
refuse to increase.

Mr. Booth asked what is to become
of the disabled soldier? Is he to
displace the civilian who was pain-
fully waiting for cure before the
soldier contracted his illness? Is he
to remain hopelessly waiting till his
last chance of recovery has dis-
appeared?

Mr. Booth protested against the
Government's proposal to make the
Insurance funds pay disablement
benefit to soldiers and sailors and
their relatives and to deduct the
amount of the benefit from the
pension. He reminded the Govern-
ment that insured persons had been
made to pay for the benefits.

He referred especially to the case
of soldiers' and sailors' mothers, and
theirs is indeed a hard case. A
soldiers' mother may have been
partially supported by her son. If
her power to earn money ceased and
she got 1s. disablement benefit under
the Insurance Act, her son would
never dream of reducing his usual
allowance to her, even should the
paltry 1s. disablement benefit be
more than he had earned, (let us hope
that in most cases a woman can earn
more than that). It is altogether
unjust that the Government should
say to a woman who has been get-
ting say 10s. pension and earning
10s., that when her health is de-
stroyed and her earnings give place
to 4s. disablement benefit she shall
only have a pension of 6s.

Dr. Macnamara was unable to dis-
regard this point and promised that the
Government would discuss the mat-
ter and give due weight to the pro-
posal to strike out all reference to
disablement benefit, and to award the
pensions and allowances without re-
gard to whether disablement was
being received or not.

Mr. Dickinson called attention to
the unsatisfactory position of soldiers'
and sailors' mothers. He said that
if a son had contributed £1 a week
to the home and the mother had
other children, earning between them,
say £3, the separation allowance
would be 7s. or 8s., but that if the
brothers and sisters were dependent,
the separation allowance would be
15s. or 16s. a week. Unfortunately
we know by experience that 15s. or
16s. is more than is usually allowed
under these conditions.

Mr. Dickinson thought that, as a
temporary arrangement, such differ-
ences between mothers might be ad-
mitted, but not permanently. He

(Continued on page 370, col. 2.)

DOWN WITH CONSCRIPTION.

Under the auspices of the
British Socialist Party, a

Great Mass Meeting

Will be held in the
MEMORIAL HALL,
PARRINGTON STREET, E.C.

Next Tuesday, November 30th,

Protest against the Introduction of
Military or Industrial Conscription.

Speakers:

E. C. Fairchild. Robert Williams.
Executive, B.S.P. Transport Workers' Fed.
E. Friend. J. G. Butler.
Bookbinders. Army Clothing Employees.
George Lansbury. Mrs. Ganley.

Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

Chair taken at 8 p.m.

ADMISSION FREE.

The
Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London
Federation of the Suffragettes,
400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
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Vol. II. No. 37—Sat., Nov. 27th, 1915.

Bravely and willingly we bear our
share of the World's burdens. Why,
then, deny us the right to Vote, which
would dignify our labour and increase
our Power of Service?

ONE WOMAN, ONE VOTE.

The newspapers have been busy
with forecasts of the Parliament and
Registration Bill.

The *Manchester Guardian* first
suggested that it might embody the
principle of "one man, one vote."

The *Daily Telegraph* said:

1. It will prolong the existence of the present Parliament until a reasonable period after the War.
2. It will preserve the position held by the Plural Voting Bill before the breaking out of hostilities.
3. It will ensure that the next General Election shall take place on a new register, compiled to meet the altered conditions of the country.

The *Telegraph* further stated that
a compromise had been arrived at between the Liberals and Tories in the Cabinet, as a result of which the Bill would include "not only one man, one vote; but also one vote, one value."

The *Telegraph* explained that
"under a Coalition Government, such a settlement is of course not impossible." Since then, there has been a hitch, and the Bill has been postponed.

We agree that under a Coalition Government, most things are possible, unless people outside care enough to raise a great protest.

In this case, there are people outside who are caring very much indeed.

The people outside are voteless women, who have been clamouring for enfranchisement, in increasing numbers and with growing impatience since 1865.

Women are not concerned to oppose "one man, one vote," or "one vote, one value." Indeed, every suffragist who has a logical brain, must realise that these are but parts of the same democratic demand for equal representation, which we ourselves are making; but, certainly, we are determined that when the next alteration of the franchise comes, the women's claim to vote must be met.

Every Suffrage Society has approached the Government, either publicly or privately, on this matter. Each one has said that the Woman's Suffrage movement will spring into action, vigorous and formidable, to do battle for the Vote, if and when the franchise issue shall be raised.

So far, well. But it is our business to see that those declarations can be made good.

Words that cannot be followed up by deeds are things that we must beware of. We must educate, agitate, organise, until the forces of the public

opinion we have created become overwhelming; otherwise time and the politicians will steal a march on us, and we shall see the franchise door open and shut, and the women still left out in the cold.

American women have probably thought, in the past, that the work that they are obliged to accomplish before they can win the franchise is infinitely greater than ours. In State after State they must first convert the members of two legislative chambers, and in many cases must secure the passage of the measure by a two-thirds majority twice in succession. Then they must convert the majority of an immense electorate, living scattered over tremendous territories. This entails expensive journeys under difficulties of great heat, or intense cold, blizzards, and deep snows or floods, which cause trains to be hours, even days, behind the scheduled time. The electorate which has to be reached is constantly being added to, and a large proportion of the immigrant electors cannot speak either English, French, or German, and come from lands where neither men nor women have the Vote.

But American women have this advantage; they know that the task before them is nothing less than the conversion of the majority of the men of the United States.

In this country Suffragists too often are led into the pit-fall of imagining that wire-pulling and keeping in touch with plausible politicians will win the Vote for them, without the necessity of ranging up on the side of the woman's movement the vast majority of the men and women.

Sooner or later we Suffragists must recognise that we cannot win without the pressure of the people, the politicians will only help us when they must.

We must get out amongst the people, and make them realise that women need votes, and that men, and the nation, need the equal comradeship of men and women.

We must prepare the ground for a great campaign for a vote for every woman and for every man.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

Our Letter to Asquith.

Dear Sir,

It is widely rumoured in both the Liberal and Conservative press, that the Government's proposed Bill to amend the Parliament Act, will not merely be a measure to delay the next General Election, but also a Franchise and Registration Bill, which will establish the principle of one man one vote and one vote one value.

The East London Federation of the Suffragettes, on whose behalf I write, waited upon you on Saturday, June 20th, 1914, at a time when women believed that the day of their enfranchisement could not much longer be delayed.

You replied to that deputation in most sympathetic terms, promising to give the case presented to you "very careful and mature consideration." You stated that you understood the case of the working women who waited upon you to be "that the economic conditions under which women labour in a community like, for instance, the East End of London, are such that, either in the way of legislation, or perhaps in the way of administration, we cannot get substantial and intelligent reform, unless women themselves have a voice in choosing representatives for Parliament." You admitted that the case had been illustrated by evidence to show "that it is not a mere rhetorical statement, but does correspond to the actual facts of East End life."

You stated that when the franchise was given to women it must be by means of a democratic measure and that, "if the change has to come, we must face it boldly and make it thorough going and democratic in its basis."

In these words you entirely summed up our own case.

We agree with you that every man should be enfranchised; we ask that every woman should be enfranchised too.

The case of Votes for Women has grown more urgent since the war. Women are deeply concerned in the war question because their husbands, sons and brothers are fighting at the front. Very many thousands of women are concerned in the matter of war pensions and allowances, and in the formation of the committees which will have so much power over the control of the lives of soldiers' and sailors' dependants, the majority of whom are women and children.

Women suffered more greatly than men from unemployment at the outbreak of the war; they were vitally affected by the efforts of the Government to deal with unemployment.

Above all, women are daily coming more and more into the industrial world because of the war, and the industries of the country cannot be maintained without them, and, as you have pointed out, they play an indispensable part in the production of munitions. If industrial troubles come after the war, the women will still more urgently need the protection of political power.

It is the women who are suffering most greatly from the high cost of living, and as they form a growing majority of the home population, the injustice of excluding them from enfranchisement becomes more serious every day.

These matters are felt most urgently by the women on whose behalf I write. We therefore ask you to receive a deputation of our members on an early date, in order that we may lay our case before you, as we did in June 1914.

As we believe that other women's organisations may also approach you, we should be willing to agree to a joint deputation, if this would meet your wishes, and make it easier for you to accede to our request.

Faithfully yours,

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

We notice that there is much more outcry about the reduction of public-house hours than about the tax on tea and sugar, and the rising price of milk and bread; also that the clauses of the Finance Bill, dealing with the housewife's groceries were quickly rushed through, as of small importance, whilst even the smallest details concerning bankers and business men are hotly debated in great detail, the Government frequently compromising to meet the wishes of those concerned.

Mr. Birrell, when asked in the House of Commons to take measures to cope with the milk scarcity in agricultural districts in Ireland, replied that "Governmental remedial measures are not at present practicable." Yet this scarcity is a matter of vital importance, especially for the health and well-being of the children in those districts.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—E. Brown, Esq. 5.0.0, Mrs. Boswell 3.0.0, Mrs. G. Smyth 3.0.0, S. Kirkwood, Esq. 10.0, Mrs. Palmer 10.0, Miss L. Cullen 7.0, T. H. Atkinson, Esq. 5.10.0, Massey Esq. 5.0, Tom Norris, Esq. (monthly) 5.0, Miss Thomas per Miss Rintel 4.0, Mr. Chapple 2.6, Collection Poplar 1.3, Women's Hall collection 1.2, Mrs. Pascoe (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Ferne (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Thomas (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Dodge (monthly) 1.0, Mrs. Tanner 0.10, Collection Canning Town 0.6.

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TOWARDS CHRISTMAS PARTIES.—Mrs. Mansell-Moullin 1.0.0, Employees of Compton's, Ltd. 10.4.

CLOTHING, ETC.—Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. B. Miller Kerr, Mrs. R. B. Pollitt, Miss K. Raleigh, Misses Allen-Brown, Mrs. Leo Myers, Mrs. Emil Teichmann, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Waterfield, Mrs. Westlake, Mrs. E. K. Lelacheur, Miss M. Brewer (Grade III) Mrs. K. K. Brown, Mrs. C. F. Ward, Mrs. Webber, Miss Johnson, Miss Gliksten, M. P., Mrs. H. Armes, Miss M. B. Vibert, Mrs. K. Brown, Mrs. T. C. Burke, Women of Tasmania, "Royal New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children," per Mrs. Bristed. GROCERIES—per Miss Batson. CHRISTMAS DINNER—Fruit for Pudding, Miss Hudson.

The WOMAN MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

The very day that the suffragists in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and New Jersey found that Votes for Women had not secured a majority in the Referendum of men electors, they started a new campaign, for victory next time.

They have reason to be confident. This is the first time the question has been submitted to the men of these Eastern States, yet over a million votes were cast in its favour.

In New York over half a million voted for the women and they only needed to secure one more vote in nine in order to win. The machine politicians in most districts were either openly opposed to the women, or preserved a hostile neutrality. This made the women's work much harder. In seven counties there were majorities for Votes for Women. One of these was Schenectady, where the Socialists recently had a majority in the city administration.

This was considered a reactionary year altogether in New York, and whilst Votes for Women was defeated by a majority of 175,000 votes, the new reformed constitution for the whole State was defeated by 375,000 votes. Yet everyone knows that the new constitution is bound to come—and so is Votes for Women!

In Massachusetts one more vote in three is needed to win. The liquor interest fought hard against the women and pink slips were passed round by the saloon men: labelled "good for two drinks if woman suffrage is defeated."

In Pennsylvania the heaviest majority cast against Votes for Women was in Philadelphia, but even there the adverse vote was only 44,000, whilst the reform candidate for mayor was defeated by 75,000. Votes for Women was carried in 32 counties, including all the big mining centres. Thousands of faked ballot papers, on which the Votes for Women amendment was not printed, are reported by the *Woman's Journal* to have been used. Nevertheless 25,000 votes, added to the 6,000 recorded for it, would have secured a victory for the cause.

In New Jersey women's suffrage got 133,201 out of 317,675 votes cast, or 1 in every 2.3 votes. Suffragist watchers at the poll made serious complaints of corruption, the stuffing of ballot boxes, etc.

Eight of the United States of America have given Votes to Women in the last six years. Next year a referendum vote on the subject will be taken in Iowa, South Dakota and Virginia. Alice Stone Blackwell, the veteran suffragist and daughter of the pioneer, Lucy Stone, calls on the women of America to send help to their comrades in those three States.

Women of Great Britain must welcome the progress of the women's movement in other parts of the world, and feeling the bond of world-sisterhood, must rejoice in the victories of the woman's cause, that are constantly being achieved in one land or another.

The *Springfield Republican* said, in commenting on the recent suffrage polls:—

"It is the deadly persistence of this cause that ensures it against any kind of discouragement."

Obviously this must be so, as the emancipation of women is a part of human progress.

Let those of us who are members of the suffrage movement be worthy, in our own "persistence," of the persistent forces of evolution, of which we are each an infinitesimal part.

The *Birmingham Post* in an article on the Munition Makers' Volunteer Canteen Committee, the secretary of which is Lady Lawrence, says that some employers refuse facilities for the Committee, because they think it inadvisable that "the conditions of female labour should be known to any body or organisation of women workers, who might subsequently assist an agitation for improvement."

The *Birmingham Post* says "surely such apprehensions are not worthy of being entertained, especially at a time like the present."

What does the *Post* mean? Does it think it unworthy for the employer to object to the agitation or for the women to agitate for improved conditions for their sisters?

MUNITIONS ACT.

It is generally agreed that the Munitions Act is a failure. The Glasgow Trades' Council declares that the Act "has proved a foment of disagreement," and recommends that Munitions Tribunals be abolished and that committees of employers and employed (represented by the Trade Unions) be set up in their place; questions which the local committees cannot settle to be referred to a central committee, composed of an equal number of employers and employed and representatives of the Ministry of Munitions.

We recommend self-government by the workers in the factory, with a proviso that the workers shall benefit by the increased output of the factory as a whole.

The *New Statesman* says:—"For the way in which Mr. Lloyd George's Act is being worked in many districts 'Slavery' hardly appears to be too strong a word. But the worst tales are not told. One, indeed, came up in court the other day, when a number of girls insisted on leaving because of the literally indescribable behaviour towards them persisted in by a foreman. The firm nevertheless refused them their discharge, and insisted, in the Munitions Court, on their submissive return to work. The girls were too shy to state plainly to a tribunal exclusively masculine what the foreman had done, and the presiding lawyer made light of the case, and was about to order them back with a fine. It was, however, quietly intimated to him that, for the girls' protection, any such decision would immediately be followed by a criminal prosecution, whereupon he decided to grant the girls their leaving certificates."

The *New Statesman* says "that if the number of assessors is increased from two to four, one at least should be a woman."

We urge that half the assessors should be women in every case.

In the House of Commons Mr. Anderson asked the Minister of Munitions whether the recent regulations of his Department, re the wages of women, referred to the Hayes Gramophone Company, and if so does he know that the women doing men's work in this firm are paid considerably lower wages than those prescribed?

Dr. Addison replied that the Minister of Munitions "makes every endeavour to promote the adoption of the recommendations" made with regard to paying women over 18 years of age £1 a week.

The Minister of Munitions is very ready to enforce laws and regulations which are to the detriment of the worker. Why not enforce the £1 a week scheme, too?

A well-authenticated case is sent to us of a girl in a munition factory, who was asked to work three machines at 4d. an hour. The man employed before her worked two machines at 8d. an hour!

On November 18th Mr. Snowden asked in the House of Commons, "why, and by what authority, Lord Derby's letter has been sent to boys under seventeen years of age; why such boys are being canvassed and threatened with being summoned before the local tribunal; and if this is done with the knowledge of the War Office?"

Mr. Tennant: "I am amazed to learn it, but if it has been done it is entirely an error and mistake owing to the hurry in which the letters were sent out."

Replies like this do no credit to the War Office; why should there be 'hurry' in these important transactions? What are the committees doing? Is the National Register waste paper, except for purposes of coercion?

Frederick Stock, aged 15, of Major Road, Stratford, was charged in the Children's Court, at West Ham, with being an absentee from the 18th London Rifles.

Although the recruiting officer had been told his real age, he ordered the boy to sign. He was remanded, and the boy's mother was to be given an opportunity to come to the Court and see the Clerk.

SCHOOL NURSERIES.

Mr. Herbert Lewis stated in the House of Commons on November 17th that grants were first paid to day nurseries in the financial year ending March 31st, 1915. Eighty nurseries were recognised, and received grants amounting to £5,000; about 2,500 children could be accommodated.

Even for a beginning, this sum is anything but ample, it works out at about £2 a year per child! The Education department refers to these nurseries as school nurseries. The nurseries are not maintained by the Local Authorities, but are run by private funds. The necessity for them is increased in the London area, because the L.C.C. is excluding children under five from the elementary schools.

The prosecution of Mrs. Jennie E. M. Walter, at Bow Street, for infringement of the Midwives' Act of 1902, shows that the abuse of baby-farming still exists.

If there were proper and sufficient day nurseries and homes for children, and if the children's mothers were not sweated, baby-farms would disappear.

Send a contribution to the Mothers' Arms, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow.

Between February 1st, 1915, and 30th April, 1915, 3,705 boys and 106 girls were exempted from school attendance to enter agricultural employment. Of these, 51 were between 11 and 12, 2,169 between 12 and 13, and 1,084 between 13 and 14.

In order to "economise" the L.C.C. has decided to refuse to admit to school large numbers of children under five, to reduce the medical inspection of children, the inspection of milk, bread, coal, gas, weights and measures, the employment of children and persons in shops.

To the working population and the children the War is proving costly in the extreme!

To economise on the schools means spending more in the long-run on hospitals and gaols.—*Alice Stone Blackwell.*

Lord Haldane, in an address which he gave at the Hampstead Garden City, remarked that, "unless something more than mere British courage and pluck was put into the economic struggle—unless something was done to develop the British mind—then he would frankly warn them that he could not feel at ease about the future of the British Empire." Can anyone doubt the truth of this remark?

NUMBERS TELL.

A return of the convictions for drunkenness in the Metropolitan Police district for the week ending November 7th, shows a steady decrease.

The cases for the first week in October were 785 men and 324 women, and the first week in November, 524 men and 232 women.

Sir John Simon stated that 62 of the 16,526 women convicted of drunkenness in 1914-15, were in receipt of war allowances.

Where does the "abnormal" drunkenness amongst soldiers' wives come in? Where, too, is the increase of drunkenness amongst women?

The Bishop of London appears to be losing his head. He says that his clergy in the East End had told him that they had never known such an orgie of drinking amongst women as they had during the last twelve months.

Living in the East End we know this statement to be absolutely false.

We consider that it ill-becomes the Bishops, who have legislative power in the House of Lords, and who have never raised a finger to limit the power of the drink traffic, to upbraid women for drunkenness. If Jesus should come to earth again he would be the first to disown such utterances!

Remember that Pound Day for the E.L.F.S. Christmas Dinner Party is December 7th, and that gifts of nuts and dried fruits, groceries, etc., should reach 400, Old Ford Road, by December 7th. More perishable things should arrive by December 16th, and we should like to have promises of these well in advance.

As announced last week, the vegetables were already promised. Since then, Mr. and Mrs. Sadd Brown have kindly promised a turkey.

RENTS.

We urge tenants to remember that there is a danger that Parliament may rise, without having brought in a Bill to prevent the raising of rents and the interest on mortgages on house property. The latter point is almost as important as the former, for 80 per cent. of the cottage property of this country is said to be owned by poor people. Many of these have borrowed money to build the houses. The capitalists who lend money, insist on raising the rate of interest, because the Government has raised the rate of interest paid on money lent to the State. At present the landlords and money lenders are holding their hands where tenants have shown that they are determined neither to pay nor to go. They are probably hoping that the matter will blow over.

Then as soon as Parliament has risen they will serve notices to quit or to pay increased rent upon their tenants, and though magistrates may perhaps say that they sympathise with the tenants and may delay by a few days the day of ejection, with a few rare exceptions, magistrates will not refuse ejection orders.

The refusal of the ejection order is the only thing worth doing that a magistrate can do to help the tenant, but this is the one thing that magistrates will not do.

Deeds not Words.

Last week the workers at the dockyards and munition factories in Glasgow and on the Clyde left their work and marched in large bodies to the Court to protest against the proposed evictions for non-payment of increased rent. Fourteen of their number went into Court, whilst the others held meetings in the adjoining streets. A platform was erected for the speakers in Hutcheston Street. It was rushed by the police and there was a lively struggle.

At the request of the Munitions Board, and because of public feeling, the cases were withdrawn.

Before the event the tenants had warned Mr. Lloyd George that the workers would come from the ship yards and munition factories to defend their case. A reply was received, saying that the Munitions Ministry would settle the matter, and that the cases could be decided without the tenants, in order that the work in the shipyards and munition factories should not be interrupted.

The tenants refused to have the matter settled behind their backs. They do not trust the Ministry of Munitions.

By their energy and determination the workers have for the time being won the day.

But when will the Government get to business and put through that Bill?

On November 18th, when the rent question was brought up again, Mr. Barnes replied to Mr. Long's remark that the question had arisen suddenly by saying that he had been "putting questions on this matter for nearly a year."

Mr. McKinnon Wood promised to fix an early date for the introduction of a Bill to deal with the rents in Scotland. Evidently the action of the munitioners on the Clyde in backing up the rent strikers is helping to force the hand of justice!

In the House of Commons on November 16th Mr. W. Thorne stated that the owners of cottage property in Upperton Road, Plaistow, have been having their rents collected by certified bailiffs since the War commenced. Mr. Walter Long said he was having inquiries made.

A friend from Newcastle-on-Tyne writes:—"I am getting the *Woman's Dreadnought* from the newsagent. When the young lady came for my fortnightly paper she said she had had a look at my new paper, the *Dreadnought*, and she liked it so much that she and her brother had ordered one each for themselves."

SUNDAY MEETING.

Nov. 28th, 7 p.m.

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Mr. Fred Hughes, National Union of Clerks.
Chair—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.

TRADE UNION NOTES.

By ALICE MACLENNAN.

In the *Monthly Gazette* of the Amalgamated Union of Clothiers' Operatives it is reported that not a single clothing factory in Huddersfield is paying to women any War bonus, or increased wage to meet the increased cost of living. Some of the workers are still paying for the power which drives the machinery.

In one of the largest Huddersfield factories the girls signed a petition asking for a War bonus, and the firm offered them 6d. a week and short time, or no War bonus and regular work. The girls accepted "regular work."

The men in this town who, it is important to note, are strongly organised, have secured a minimum rate of wage, and in addition a War bonus. Added to that they are now making new demands. This obvious illustration of what the power of organised labour has done for the men should be an incentive to women to combine and do likewise.

At Leeds much unrest has been caused by alteration in prices. The workers have either had prices reduced, or threats have been made that this will be done. In one firm, where a threatened reduction was about to take place the A.U.C.O. officials interviewed the management with the result that a provisional settlement was arrived at, giving an advance of 9d. per dozen, and the abolition of charges for all sewings for machinists employed on khaki drills. The advance and abolition of sewings represented an increase of not less than 5s. 6d. per week. There is now not a single non-unionist in this factory.

The Amalgamated Union of Corset Makers and Sewing Machinists have secured an agreement, affecting 600 women and girls in Manchester, granting a War bonus of 2s. for women over 21 years of age, and 1s. for those under.

It is rumoured that the Manchester Engineering Employers' Federation have decided not to pay the £1 minimum to munition workers, as recommended by the Minister of Munitions, unless Trade Unions bring pressure to bear on them. As far as can be gathered—with the exception of Kendal and Ghents, who were paying that wage to all women prior to the issue of the said recommendations—only one firm (non-federated) in the district is prepared to adopt them. This is Hans Renold, Ltd., who state that their general attitude is favourable towards paying £1 to all women over 21 years of age, and thinks it reasonable to extend this to women over 18. At the same time, however, they point out that the rate applies to the standard hours of the district, as stated by the Minister of Munitions, which for Manchester is 53. "The corresponding base wage for a factory such as ours," says the manager, "where all rates are reckoned on a 48-hours' week, would be 18s. 2½d. As all factories are now working heavy overtime, the effect of this rate will be that no woman will draw less than 26s. or 27s. at the end of the week." It is further stated by this firm that only "a very small proportion of women in engineering and munition works are employed on men's work. In our own case, out of about 500 women and girls employed, only something between 10 and 20 can be said to be doing men's work, and even this could be questioned."

If 10 to 20 out of 500 are to receive the £1 minimum, or to be correct 18s. 2½d., what do the remainder not on men's work earn? And this, comparatively speaking, is considered a model firm. Where are the women that the *Times* tells us receive up to £4 per week?

It remains as usual for women-workers to fight for themselves, combine in their Trade Unions, and make their own demands. Evidently Mr. Lloyd George is not to be trusted with women's interests!

Widow, aged 30, without children, thrown on her own resources, needs work. Cook desires employment.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION
OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

OBJECTS: To secure the Parliamentary Vote for every Woman over 21, and to promote the Social and Industrial Welfare of Women.
Entrance Fee...1d. Subscription...1d. a Month

BRANCH REPORTS.

BOW.

400 OLD FORD ROAD.
Miss Manicom spoke Tuesday afternoon; a discussion followed. Good meeting held in Whitechapel on Sunday morning—63 *Dreadnoughts* sold. The meeting in Hyde Park was very large and enthusiastic. The Debate on the "Daylight Saving Bill" was well attended. Miss L. Gatwood was among the new speakers. The attention of members is drawn to the Christmas Party for Children and the Christmas Dinner. Dinner tickets, price 6d., can be obtained from Miss Smyth and Miss Vine. All members are asked to pay up Subscriptions before end of year. Who will help to take round tickets? *Dreadnoughts* sold week ending Nov. 13th—850. Miss Lynch 232, Miss O'Brien 161, Miss Bennett 115, Miss Smyth 89, Mrs. Farrall 74, Mrs. Crabb 60, Mrs. Holloway 41, Mrs. Savoy 28, Special Meeting 50.

POPLAR.

THE WOMEN'S HALL, 20 RAILWAY ST.
Secretary: MRS. DRAKE.

We are most anxious that all members should pay up arrears of subscription (1d. a month) before the end of the year. We wish to make a special appeal this week for paper sellers. Who will sell the *Dreadnought* for an hour or so on Sunday morning, at the Dock Gates? Good open-air meetings this week at Follett St., Crisp St., and Grundy St. On Tuesday and Friday indoor meetings were also good.

You will remember we are collecting for a *Dreadnought* Poster to be displayed at Aldwych Tube Station. Up to the present we have received 12s. 6d., and would like to complete the amount (30s.) before the new year. This is important as it will help to get the *Dreadnought* sold. The Social on Saturday, Nov. 20th, was a great success. This was in aid of the "League of Rights" funds. Members of the E.L.F.S. helped splendidly, and it is due to them that we did so well, and they are heartily thanked for their co-operation. The caterers made a profit of 10s., and have paid this to the funds of the E.L.F.S., and Miss Lynch 4s. 8d. by fortune-telling. The "League of Rights" will benefit to the amount of over £2, and a Milk collection of 1s. 6d. was taken for the babies by a baby.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending Nov. 20th—255. Miss K. Lagading 54, Mrs. Shlette 48. Collections—Miss E. Lagading 8s. 3d., Mrs. Drake 12s. 1d., Miss Morley and Miss Manicom 19s. 6d., Miss Lottie Drake 1s. 6d. at Social. Mrs. Haywood is thanked for gift of flour to Restaurant.

HACKNEY.

Office: 175 DALSTON LANE
(Facing Hackney Downs Station).
Papers can be obtained at this address at any time.
Good meeting held at corner of Morning Lane and Well St. on Saturday, when Mrs. Davies was the speaker.

Members and friends are reminded that the Annual Reports are on sale at the office, price 2d. These are very interesting records of the movement in the East End from the beginning, and, besides, are illustrated with photographs. We have also tickets for the Christmas Dinner on sale, price 6d.

Helpers are urgently needed in every way—canvassing, paper-selling, and collecting. All members are urged to pay up their subscriptions before the end of the year.

Dreadnought sales—total 100. Miss Beamish 69, Miss Sands 20, Mrs. Bird 7, General Sales 4.

WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT.

A list of *Dreadnought* pitches is given below at which we shall be very grateful for the help of more sellers and buyers.

A newsagent near is mentioned where the Paper can always be obtained should a seller not be present at the street pitch.
Tottenham Court Rd., 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. ("Horseshoe" News-stand).

Mudie's Library, 3 to 5 p.m. (Tarlons, 4 Museum St.).

Holborn Town Hall, Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. (Rose's, Clerkenwell Rd., Wareham's, Gray's Inn Rd.).

Gray's Inn Rd. (Chancery Lane end), Wednesdays, 4.30 to 6 p.m. (Bull's, Gray's Inn Rd.).

Kingsway (Holborn end), Saturdays, 5 to 6.30 p.m. (Blind-man's News-stand, Kingsway).

Henderson's, booksellers, 66 Charing Cross Rd., also stock the *Dreadnought*.

NORTH LONDON.

A new pitch will be started next Saturday at Highbury Station, 3 to 5 p.m.

UNION OF DEMOCRATIC CONTROL (London Federation).

"The Outlook for a Permanent Peace."

PUBLIC MEETING

AT MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon St., E.C., on Monday, November 29th, 1915, at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman—MR. F. W. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

Speakers—MR. E. D. MOREL.

MISS ISABELLA O. FORD.

MR. ROBERT WILLIAMS.

MR. CHARLES TREVELYAN, M.P.

Reserved Seats, Sixpence. Doors open 7 p.m.

For Free or Reserved Tickets and all information apply to Miss M. LONGBOURNE, Secretary, London Federation U.D.C., 37 Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE.

THE WOMEN'S CASE AGAINST CONSCRIPTION.

A WOMEN'S MEETING (men by special ticket only) will be held at the

MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon St., on Wednesday, December 1st, at 7.30 p.m.

Chair—MRS. A. M. SWANWICK.

Speakers—MRS. BARTON, MISS MARGARET BONDFIELD, MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE, MISS CATHERINE MARSHALL, MISS MAUDE ROYDEN.

Admission Free. Reserved Seats 2s. 6d. and 1s. Apply: Meeting Sec., W.I.L., 13 Little College Street, Westminster. Telephone: VIC. 2254.

(Continued from front page.)

pointed out that a mother might be awarded a pension of 10s., but as soon as one of her dependent children should grow up, and become capable of supporting her the pension would cease.

We wish to call attention to the fact that, at the same time, if a mother loses the husband who has been her main support, the amount allowed to her on her son's account is not increased. Although her son would certainly have helped her if he had not been at the War.

Dr. Macnamara, in reply, said that the Select Committee's Report provides that the allowance to dependants may be increased to the amount which would have been payable, if the first dependant had been a wife and the others had been children.

We ourselves have been calling the attention of the authorities to this recommendation and imploring them to apply it in specific cases of hardship ever since the Report came out. But our efforts have been vain! This part of the Report appears to be intended only for "window dressing."

Dr. Macnamara also referred to the recommendation that pension officers shall remember that the absence of one member of a family will increase the household expenses per individual.

This is a recommendation which we find is usually ignored!

Until a flat rate has been fixed for the pensions and allowances of soldiers' and sailors' mothers and other dependants, injustice and hardships will be rife in the administration of the War pensions and allowances.

Sir A. Mond, in advocating conscription, which seems to be dragged into every Parliamentary debate, said that in France and Switzerland no legal proceedings can be taken against men on service with the colours, nor can their wives and children be turned out for non-payment of rent. He added: "I do not want you to go as far as that."

Mr. Whitehouse interrupted, "Why not?"

Sir A. Mond replied, "I am told that it is 'Prussianism.'"

No, Sir Alfred Mond, such things are not called 'Prussianism.'

LORD DERBY'S SCHEME.

If a man has enlisted, and it is claimed that he is engaged on indispensable work, or if he wishes to postpone the day of his being called up to the Colours, either the man or his employer may appeal to a "Local Tribunal." The Local Tribunal will refer the claim "to the Military Expert for the district, who will have the assistance of an Advisory Committee." The Military Expert and his Advisory Committee will either dismiss the claim, or assent to it, or refer it back to the Local Tribunal for hearing. Then the claimant and the Military Representative will present their cases, and witnesses may be called, but the claimant may not be represented by an advocate.

If the Local Tribunal thinks fit, it may then put the claimant back ten groups. If the claimant again appeals, and if the Military Representative and the Advisory Committee think fit, the man may afterwards be placed in a still later group.

If "any party is aggrieved" by the decision, appeals may be made to a Central Appeal Tribunal.

This so-called voluntary system is adding to the amazing net-work of Committees, which are being set up for every purpose (often to no purpose). It seems that very soon every man that is not at the War will be serving on a Committee. (Are the members of Committees and Tribunals to be allowed exemption armlets?)

We wonder why there should be Local Tribunals and Advisory Committees to manage Lord Derby's scheme. The Local Tribunals are set up by the Local Authorities. The Advisory Committees are to be "composed of persons conversant with

local industries and local conditions of life, and representing both the employers and employees." Who are these persons to be? Who is to appoint them?

The cases of men who have been scheduled as engaged in vitally important occupations, and who have been given War badges, are to be re-inquired into, and they may now find that the work that they are doing is no longer held to be of vital importance, or that they are no longer of vital importance to it.

Thousands of men have been ordered to be attested on pain of dismissal; some may have consented in the belief that, as they were doing essential work, the attestation was merely a matter of form. If so, they are likely to have a rude awakening presently.

The Central Appeal Committee consists of Lord Sydenham, Sir George Younger, Sir Francis Gore, Alderman Cyril Jackson (member of the Senate of London University and "expert investigator" in connection with the Poor Law Commission, 1906), and Mr. G. J. Talbot, K.C. (Chancellor of Lincoln, Ely, Lichfield, Southwark, and Winchester dioceses).

There is not one single representative of the working classes, and all the members are conscriptionists.

THE DEFENCELESS SOLDIER.

Dear Madam,—May I thank you, on behalf of all keen Company Officers for your efforts to secure full rights and justice for our splendid, cheery, patient Tommies?

Can you make the following clear to any soldiers who come to you for advice, and before you or they take any direct action? (This is the short cut through brick walls)—

(1) It is the right of every soldier to see his Company Officer on any personal matter. It is an offence to take or give a bribe to secure this right.

Note—Advise a man to tell no one, to find out time of Company Orderly Room; before or during that time to announce himself to the Senior N.C.O. in charge: "I wish to see the Company Officer."

(2) A man should patiently persist, for several days, if refused, and have a chum standing "casual like" near by as a witness.

Note—If still refused, he should write a letter to the Officer, merely stating that he wishes to see him, and has been refused, in the presence of witness, whose name, No., etc., as well as the applicant's, must be stated. Anonymous letters are fatal.

(3) If, after seeing the Company Officer, the man is not satisfied that he has received justice, and particularly if he has any documentary evidence, he should send a formal letter as below (keeping a copy):—

Note—The letter should be written on foolscap. The writer's rank, name, No., address and date are very important. Never part with original documents: copy them on foolscap, and ask an officer to certify the copy "correct."

To O. C. — Company.

Address.

Subject—Statement of Account, and Arrears of Pay. As I have received no answer (or as I cannot feel satisfied with your reply) to my application made to you on (date). I request that the matter may be promptly referred to higher authority.

Regt. No. —. Name —.

Initials —. Corps —.

Address —.

Date —.

(4) No Officer or N.C.O. known to me would risk the consequences of delaying such an application.

(5) Meet what is sometimes, but not always, Red Tape by the recognised methods, "decently and in order."

Yours faithfully,

"AN OLD COMPANY OFFICER, DUG-OUT."

This letter confirms our distaste for the methods of military discipline. That it should be necessary that a soldier should always be provided with witnesses and never part with copies of his letters, that it should be anticipated that he will be refused permission to see the company officer, and that he should be advised to proceed in this formal and unnatural way, proves our case that the military system must not be allowed to encroach one further step upon our civil life.

After much persistence, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst received the following:—

Madam,—In reply to your letter, dated 12th instant, I am directed to acquaint you that you will be quite in order in referring to this Department any complaints from serving soldiers who have failed to obtain redress on application to their regimental officers.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. W. COOPER

(For the Assistant Financial Secretary).

This is not entirely satisfactory, because, unfortunately, we know that some soldiers are afraid to make complaints on their own account.

Soldiers and sailors urgently need a Trade Union to represent them.

ANOTHER IMPUDENT LETTER
FROM THE S.S.F.A.!

Mrs. S—, Unless your debt to the S.S.F.A. of £3 5s. 0d. is repaid in full on Tuesday morning, November 23rd, at the above address, the affair will be put into the hands of the police for prosecution.

Yours truly, C. Hall.

Mrs. S—'s husband was a timber porter earning £3 a week; he enlisted in the Navy about 9 weeks ago. He is stationed at the Crystal Palace. He was out of work a week before he joined. Therefore, the week he enlisted, as no separation allowance came through, his wife was in need of money and applied to the S.S.F.A. or, as she calls it, "the funds."

She was given 25s., but, as she said, she had to "fight like" to get it. In each of the two following weeks she was given £1.

By that time her ring paper came through and she drew her separation allowance of 6s. a week for herself, 4s. for the first child, 3s. for the second, 2s. for the third, 3s. 6d. London allowance, and 5s. her husband's allowance, making 23s. a week. Sailors' wives are not so well off as those of soldiers! Her husband's pay is only 8s. 3d. a week, so that when the 5s. allotment has been deducted, he is left with only 3s. 3d.!

Mrs. S— did not know how to manage on her separation allowance after the good wage her husband used to bring home to her, especially as everything had grown so dear. It is true she received three weeks arrears of pay all at once, but she already owed 25s. rent, and had borrowed £2 from a loan club and had to pay 3s. in the £ interest, also she owed 4s. to the "boot woman."

Her difficulties are increased by the fact that as her husband cannot afford to pay for his washing, he sends it home for his wife to do, and it costs her 1s. a week to post it to him. He generally gets one day off a week, and comes home, and naturally she has to get a little extra food for him, beside paying his fare, as he is so short of money. Also he has to buy clothes for himself, and she has to squeeze a few shillings for him out of her allowance.

In desperation she decided to go out to work and got employment last week at 11s. a week. She received two post cards telling her to go to the S.S.F.A., but she did not want to leave her work to do so. She had wanted to get work at Compton's Army clothing factory, where she could earn more, but the Government contracts have fallen off, and she has been told that she cannot be taken on there till the New Year.

Then she was hoping that she would be able to pay back the £3 5s. 0d. to the S.S.F.A., but, as it is, she can hardly make ends meet.

And now this cruel threatening letter has come!

MISS BOSWELL AGAIN!

A young wife was informed that her husband had been killed in the War and that £1 2s. 7d. had been found upon him. The authorities informed her that she must spend one-third of this money on herself and two-thirds on her little boy.

Later she was informed that a further £6 was due to her, that the S.S.F.A. would put it in the bank for her, but that she might draw it out as she wished.

She went to the local branch of the S.S.F.A. to ask for £1 to buy mourning and £1 for blankets and other things for the home.

Miss Boswell who interviewed her said that 10s. ought to be enough.

Miss Boswell also asked her why she did not go into "service" and put the little boy in an institution.

The soldier's widow protested that she must have her £2 and because she persisted she was put outside the S.S.F.A. office.

That was more than a week ago, and up to date she has not received a penny of the money—not even the suggested 10s.!